A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, February 10. 1711.

I Attempted to say something in my last, of the laying irredeemable Funds, and the Inconvenience of it, in Case of any future Occasion this Nation may have of making War —— I know I shall be ask'd, how I can propose a Medium? And I answer, *I might easily do it*; but it is rather the Duty of this Paper, to hint at an Inconvenience, in order to have it shun'd in Season, than to direct the Parliament what to do, which I do not pretend to.

If it were my Place to propose Funds, I could easily Convince the World, that this Nation is far from being Exhausted of Funds upon which to raise large Summs of Money and yet without coming to the last shift of General Excises, a Thing we have always thought Dishonourable and Oppressive: But the present Business looks another Way, and it does not seem so much the Work of the Times where to get Funds, as where to find People that will lend Money upon them; this is the Article on which the Weight of the whole depends —— Yet neither is this so difficult to be brought to pass, as some imagine, who tell us the War cannot be carried on, because Loans will not be found —— I think it abundantly easie upon laying good Funds, to find Money upon the Security of them, to carry on the

the War, and if on the firſt appearance any difficulty appears, I ſhall ſay more.

But before I come to that, I ſhall take a little Liberty with our Methods——I have ſpoken a little, of the Inconvenience of Irredeemable Funds; I am perſuaded the Damage of them is too viſible, to need that I ſhould ſay more. Two Things may Remedy this Evil; either to lay the Funds Redeemable, or to lay them for leſs Time —— In both which Caſes I acknowledge, higher Premios and Advantages muſt be offer'd to the Lender —— And *be it ſo*, it is Reaſonable, that when the Lender Advances his Money for a Time only, upon the preſſing Occaſions of the Publick, to receive it again when theſe Occaſions ceaſe, he ſhould have a larger Conſideration —— And this brings two Conſequences in.

1. Thoſe larger Conſiderations, will at once take off the diffidence of ſome People, in lending; for as Merchants enſure every Risk, by the Proportion of the Premio, ſo advance but an Intereſt upon the Loan, thoſe People will Lend, that at the common Rate will ſtand out——Six *per Cent.* may be had any where, Seal'd Bills at the Bank now yield it, therefore no Man will take his Money out there, to put it into the Exchequer at the ſame Intereſt; but if the Government give 8 *per Cent.* the Money will preſently ſtir.

All the Objections now that follow naturally upon this, of bringing the Government into a Payment of Extravagant Intereſts, will receive their Anſwer in this ſecond Head, *viz.* The Nation had better pay 8 *per Cent.* upon Annuities redeemable by Parliament, than 6 *per Cent.* for a Hundred Years Entail —— In the firſt they are free, and when a Peace comes, may ſoon buy off their Encumberance; in the ſecond they are ty'd Hand and Foot for a Hundred Year, and can never be in a Condition either to keep Peace, or to make War.

On this Notion of mine, much of our preſent Credit may depend; I know it has been ſaid and Printed too, that when ever the Government pleaſes to advance the Intereſt on the Funds, Money will come in; but I think this is a wrong Notion, he that offers a higher Intereſt than he gave before, *begs to borrow* —— He that leſſens his Intereſt, makes the Lender *beg to lend*; but here the Advance of Intereſt has a Reaſon for it, *viz.* becauſe the Lender is oblig'd to take his Money again, which in the other Caſe he is not——And this is a juſt Reaſon, why he ſhould have a larger Conſideration, and yet at the ſame Time, this Advance of a Conſideration, will command the Loan. We have ſome People very fond of ſaying, the Credit of the Nation has receiv'd *no blow at all*; let ſuch ſee, if Funds on common Intereſt will Command their Loans as uſual. We have others that cry out very loud of the Ruin of our Credit, and that the Parliament may give Funds as long as they pleaſe, they will not find Money come in; let ſuch ſee, if an Advance of Intereſt and Premio on Loans, be offer'd, with a Redeeming Clauſe to make that Advance juſt, that Advance does not open the cloſeſt Hand among us?

As to thoſe that think every Loan will fill readily, and that Money will come tumbling in at the Exchequer as faſt as ever, upon the uſual Intereſt; I ſhall not Contradict them, becauſe they are very poſitive; but if they are Friends to the preſent Government, I would not wiſh them to put it to a Trial, at leaſt not juſt now —— If one Fund fails to fill, they will never fill another——Beſides, the Nature of the Thing is againſt it; a general want of Money among the Trading part of the Nation, has rais'd the Rate of Perſonal Credit, and I am miſtaken, and very much miſinform'd, if very good Security has not been given lately to borrow Money, and 12 or 15 l. *per Cent.* privately paid as a Premio—— If Perſonal Credit runs thus,

Publick

Publick Credit can never keep at common Intereſt; but ſuppoſe there was nothing in this, yet as before, Bank Stock, Bank Specie Bills, *Eaſt-India* Bonds, and ſeveral other Securities which are undoubted, give 6 and 7 *per Cent.*—— It muſt be ſomething that muſt make it worth while to diſlodge theſe Securities, that muſt ſtir the Money, and renew the Circulation, and nothing can do this, but a Conſideration ſufficient to prompt the People to it, as worth their Hazard, and more to their Advantage.

Nor can this Advance of Intereſt be a Loſs to the Nation —— For whether is better to bind the Nation to pay common Intereſt for a Hundred Years, when they are able to pay off the Principal, and put an End to the Debt, and when they may have no Occaſion to lie in Debt, or to pay 2 *per Cent.* or 25 or 32 Years, and then have Power to pay off the Principal and put an end to the Encumbrance, as Fate may put an end to the Occaſion? Let any Man caſt up one againſt the other, and they will find the Publick Stock will be great Gainers by the latter.

I might mention ſomething here, of the great Error in our Publick Lotteries, of making one or more Exorbitant Prizes and leaving the Numbers of Blanks at ſo great Odds againſt the Prizes, that a very few are Gainers; and a vaſt many People come to Blanks, which tho' there is a ſeeming Equivalent in the Intereſt, yet as appears by the Sale of their Tickets, are really 30 *per Cent*, Loſers by their Money.

It is true, that the Clamour and Noiſe of a Thouſand Pound a Year, is a Bait to ſimple People, and hooks many in, Cheating their Imagination, and filling them with Expectations of what but one Man in an Hundred and fifty Thouſand can enjoy. If a Man was to ſtand among 150000 Men, and one Muſquet Bullet was to be ſhot among them, and to kill but one Man, the Man would hardly have any Apprehenſions that he ſhould be the Man—— Yet hardly an Adventurer in the late Lottery, that could put the very poſſiblity of his having the Prize of a Thouſand Pounds a Year ſo out of his Head, as not to be ſometimes thinking what he ſhould do if he ſhould get it——I leave this to talk a little more of in my next.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Author of this Paper having receiv'd many importunate Letters a long time, preſſing him to go on with his ſo often promis'd Diſcourſes upon Trade—— Gives this Notice.

That having often Eſſay'd to carry on a continu'd Diſcourſe upon Trade in this Paper, but been unavoidably prevented by the Fury of the Times, an unhappineſs the Author did not foreſee when this Work was undertaken—— And finding it impoſſible to have his Eſſays upon Trade purſu'd in this Paper, in ſuch an uninterrupted manner as a Subject of that Conſequence requires; ſome Gentlemen, who deſire that Work to be carried on, have made a Propoſal, for the Writing a REVIEW to be entirely taken up upon the Subject of Trade, with a Miſcellany, or a part reſerv'd to handle Particular Caſes in Trade—— And expreſly condition'd not to meddle with Matters of State, Diviſions of Parties, or any thing relating to the Affairs of Government, Civil or Eccleſiaſtick.

This Work is propos'd to be Subſcrib'd by ſuch Gentlemen as think fit to encourage it, 'till it may be able to ſupport it ſelf; in which the Author hopes he may pleaſe you all, and may have an opportunity to lay down the unpleaſant Subject of the Nation's Diviſions a Thing he has long deſir'd to do.

The Propoſals ſhall be Publiſh'd in this Paper, as ſoon as it is brought to a Concluſion, Mean time any Gentlemen that are willing to Encourage ſuch a Work, may let the Author know it by Letter, or ſuch Method as they think fit.

ADVER-

ADVERTISEMENTS.

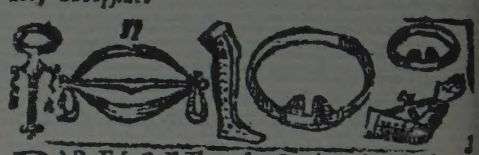
THE fam'd Balſamick Lohoch for the Lungs *The only long experienc'd Medicine known to open, cleanſe, ſtrengthen, heal, and preſerve them; whence all Aſthmatick, Phthiſical, Catarrhous Diſtillations; Coughs of all kinds, which ſtrain, weaken, fret, and make raw the Lungs, by their ſharpneſs and Violence, are ſpeedily remedied, the Paſſages lubricated, and free Liberty of Breathing reſtor'd; ſo that Conſumptions, generally occaſion'd by thoſe Diſorders are prevented, and the Patient from the utmoſt Danger thereof ſecur'd. It may be taken going Abroad in the ſharpeſt Weather, without the leaſt danger of Cold; price 2s. 6. a Bottle with Directions. Sold only at the Golden Key in Wartons Court near Holborn Bars.* (2)

AT the Green Door *over-againſt the Lamp* in Warton's Court, *within* 3 *Doors of* Holborn Barrs, *There is to be Sold the Royal Venetian Balſome, at* 5 *s. the Glaſs, the greateſt Secret ever yet made Publick in this Kingdom, for the effectual Curing the Running of the R——s, P—x, or C—p, or Old G—t in any Age, Sex, or Conſtitution, being taken in a Glaſs of Wine according to the Directions, as I have Experienc'd in my Practice in ſeveral Kingdoms, and in ſome Scores in this City, and in a great many Seamen at Sea, that took it in Water, when Wine was wanting; it may be Convey'd to any Part, or to Sea; and there taken with good Succeſs.*

P bulum Naturæ, or Food of Nature.

WHICH *in all Declenſions and Decays of the Body, Hecticks, Conſumptions, inward Weakneſſes, and Waſtings, loſs of Fleſh and Strength, whether from Exceſs, ill Habits, immoderate Fluxes, or other ſecret Evacuations or Cauſes; as alſo in all Genital Imbecilities and Inſufficiencies in both Sexes, is the moſt ſure and certain Cordial Reſtorative in the whole* Materia Medica. *Sold in* 5 *s. Bottles, at Mrs. Coles at the Dial and two Crowns, againſt St. Dunſtans Church in Fleet-Street. With Printed Directions at large*

A New Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe; In two Parts; the firſt of which Treats, 1. Of the Name and Orignal Cauſe of this Diſeaſe. 2. Of the Eſſence and Nature of the Infection. 3. Of the various Ways of Giving and Receiving, Symptoms firſt Diſcovering, an infallible Way of preventing its Infections. 4. Of a C— and its Symptoms. 5. Of the Cure of a C—. 6. Of a ſimple Gonorrhea, and all Weakneſſes in Men and Women; and their Cure. 7. Of a confirm'd P—, and its Cure. 8. Of Mercury, its good Effects, and how to Remedy its ill Effects. 9. Of the P— complicated with other Diſeaſes. 10. Of Diet, &c. proper for Venereal Patients. The ſecond Part contains an effectual Anſwer to Mr. *Martin's* Treatiſe concerning the Venereal Diſeaſe, and the Charitable Surgeon, Sold (Pr. 18*d.* at my Houſe the *Golden Ball* between the *Sun* and *Caſtle* Taverns in *Milkſtreet Market, Cheapſide.*



BARTLETT of *Goodman's-Fields* who has been ſo ſucceſsful in the Cure of Ruptures, by Steel Spring-Truſſes, with Joints or without, ſo wonderfully light and eaſie, that one of the largeſt Size, ſeldom exceeds 4 Ounces in Weight, and one of the ſmalleſt rarely exceeds a quarter of an Ounce.

☞ He is to be ſpoke with, the Forenoon every Day at his Houſe, at the Golden Ball by the Ship Tavern in Preſcot-Street in Goodmans Field, London. And the Afternoons at the Golden Ball over againſt Cheapſide Conduit, near St. Pauls.

N. B. For Privacy, he will attend any Gutleman at any Place, near the Places and Hours bove-mention'd. Thoſe, who live in the Country, may be ſupplied by ſending Letters.

N. B. His Mother, the Widow of the late Mr. *Chriſtopher Bartlet*, lives at his Houſe in *Goodman's-Fields*, and is very ſkilful in the Buſineſs to thoſe of her own Sex.

Printed for and ſold by *John Baker* at the *Black-Boy* in *Pater-Noſter-Row.* 1171.